

Serial No. 09/889,666

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strike through~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please ADD new claim 21 in accordance with the following:

1. (previously amended) A processing method for an engineering activity, comprising:
 - a) connecting a first event of the engineering activity to a set of second events of the engineering activity in a cause-and-effect relationship;
 - b) determining at least one third event of the engineering activity from the set of second events; and
 - c) carrying out the connection of the at least one third event to the first event in a predecessor/successor relationship.
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)
5. (previously amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the events have a predecessor/successor relationship with respect to one another.
6. (previously amended) The method as claimed in claim 5, in which the first event precedes the third event in the predecessor/successor relationship.
7. (previously amended) The method as claimed in claim 5, in which the third event succeeds the first event in the predecessor/successor relationship.
8. (cancelled)
9. (previously amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the events have

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associated information, generated as results of the activities.

10. (previously amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 for representing an engineering activity system or a portion thereof with a graphical user interface.

11. (previously amended) The method as claimed in claim 10, in which the graphical representation is effected by means of actuation using a context-sensitive menu.

12. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the events are used to design an engineering activity.

13. (Currently amended) A processing system, having a processor to construct:

- a) a first event of an engineering activity connected to a set of second events of the engineering activity in a cause-and-effect relationship;
- b) at least one third event of the engineering activity determined from the set of second events; and
- c) a connection of the at least one third event to the first event in a predecessor/successor relationship.

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)

18. (cancelled)

19. (cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 7, in which the events have associated information, generated as results of the activities.

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21. (new) A method comprising
modeling an engineering activity having a plurality of interrelated events with
relationships defined between the events;
displaying the model of the engineering activity with all relationships being shown;
selecting a first event of the engineering activity using a graphical user interface;
preparing first connections to connect the first event of the engineering activity to a set of
second events of the engineering activity in a cause-and-effect relationship;
determining at least one third event of the engineering activity from the set of second
events;
preparing at least one second connection to connect the at least one third event to the
first event in a predecessor/successor relationship; and
displaying the first event together with connections selected from the group consisting of
the first connections and the at least one second connection, the first event and the connections
being displayed without displaying any relationship unless the relationship is defined by a first or
second connection.